Government's decision to accede to the Paris convention for the protection of industrial property ;

(b) if so, what are the basis for such opposition ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No decision has been taken by Government on the question of India's accession to Paris convention for the protection of industrial property.

(b) and (c) In the light of the reply given to (a) above, do not arise.

Tyre Prices

37. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the pre-budget and post-budget increases in prices of tyres have caused serious concern to the Government as it has impact on the prices of essential commodities also;

(b) if so, what measures have been initiated to bring the tyre prices down ; and

(c) the details of the measure taken against the tyre industry fo such arbitrary price increases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) There is no statutory control on the prices of tyres at present. In the absence of control on prices of raw materials and conversion costs and in the prevailing competitive market condition, fair prices are better determined by market forces of demand and supply rather than by administrative intervention. However, Government constantly reviews measures required to stabilise the price of raw materials and other inputs as well as the incidence of indirect taxes so as to enable the tyre industry to maintain the prices of tyres at reasonable level. Import of automotive tyres has also been placed under open General Licence.

Machinery to check performance of Public Sector undertakings

38. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any machinery to check and monitor the performance of its public sector undertakings ;

(b) if so, the details of such a machinery ;

(c) the total investment made in the public sector undertakings so far; and

(d) the undertakings which are running at a loss and the steps taken by Government to ensure that they cease to be losing concerns ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Review of the performance of the undertakings are made by the administratives at periodic intervals and often at the level of the concerned Ministers. The Bureau of Public Enterprises also monitors the performance of Public Enterprises at quarterly intervals based on the flash working reslts received from the enterprises. The Bureau of Public Enterprises also brings out every year the Public Enterprises Survey which is a report on the working of the Industrial & Commercial Undertakings of the Central Government. The Survey is placed before both the Houses of Parliament every year. Besides, the Annual ports of the enterprises are also placed before the Parliament.